

ARMOR-PLATE PRICE.

THIS THE SUBJECT OF DEBATE IN THE SENATE.

DEFECTS IN THE PLATES.

Butler, Tillman, and Hale on this subject—Teller on the inadequacy of our Navy in General—House Resolutions, Again.

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 13.—The price to be paid for armor-plate for the new battleships now in course of construction was the theme of extended, and at times lively, debate, in the Senate today. Late in the day an amendment to the deficiency appropriation bill was agreed to, restricting the price of armor-plate to \$30 per ton, or \$15 less than the amount reported by the committee, and recommended by the Navy Department as the minimum rate acceptable to armor contractors.

Another amendment inserted in the bill gave the Secretary of the Navy to investigate as to the establishment of a government armor factory, and to report to the next session of Congress, during the debate Mr. Hale urged that the failure to equip the battleships with armor would humiliate the United States in the eyes of the world, and would leave our naval power at a time of possible foreign complication. After inserting the armor amendment, the deficiency appropriation bill, the last of the great supply measures, was passed.

Consideration of the bill was resumed immediately after the Senate recess. The question of armor-plate for new battleships was considered. The bill provided for a total appropriation of \$4,490,725 for armor for the three battleships authorized in 1898, and limited the cost per ton to \$30. Mr. Butler of North Carolina introduced an amendment reducing the total to \$2,450,000, limiting the cost to \$30 per ton, and providing for the establishment of a government armor factory, if private concerns do not bid within \$300 per ton.

Mr. Pettigrew, of South Dakota, spoke of the evidence taken before the Committee on Naval Affairs, as showing conclusively, he said, that armor-plate was made for \$200 per ton. Notwithstanding this, the armor factories, being in private hands, refused to make armor for \$30 and demanded \$25. Instead of opposing the trust, Mr. Pettigrew said, the Navy committee now proposed to accede to its demands, and to tolerate a process so disgraceful to be tolerated, the Senator asserted.

Mr. Butler spoke in severe criticism of the course of the armor factories, and of the disposition in official circles to yield to them.

DEFECTIVE ARMOR-PLATE.

The Senator reviewed the investigations made by Secretary Herbert as to the cost of armor-plate, and read from the report of the House Committee on Naval Affairs relative to irregularities in the manufacture of armor-plate. He said the report showed that by fraud and deception armor-plate had been palmed off on the government so defective that it could be pierced like a pine-board. The Senator asserted that men had been paid for armor-plate which was so defective that it was not worth the money.

Mr. Hale questioned these statements, saying that none of the defective plates were at present in actual service on warships.

When Mr. Butler, of South Carolina, insisted that many of the alleged defective plates were in use, and said their exact location on various warships was specified in the report of the House Naval Committee.

Mr. Butler reiterated his statement as to the extent of the defective armor in use. Mr. Hale interrupted with a sweeping denial. He said that such a condition would be appalling, if it existed in reality, but that there was no warrant for the assertions made by the North Carolina Senator. He uttered and absolutely denied that any portion of the armor-plate on our warships was unserviceable.

Mr. Butler declared that he knew of no more dangerous kind of fraud than that of the equipping of war-vessels with defective plates. One of those vessels, the Oregon, with spongy, imperfect, fraudulent plates, had been ordered to the Hawaiian Islands, at a time when Japan was threatening to take possession of those islands. It would be fortunate if the first shot did not hit one of those defective plates—if, indeed, there were any on her.

Mr. Hale, in reply, said that if we were to take Hawaii, if we were to go into the land-grabbing business, then, said Mr. Butler, we must have a fleet as good as or better than that of any other country in the world. If we are talking about the Hawaiian Islands, we must have a fleet as good as or better than that of any other country in the world.

Mr. Chandler inquired of Mr. Tillman what had become of the House resolution, following from the Carnegie investigation, that had come to the Senate and had been referred to the Democratic Naval Committee. He asked Mr. Tillman, if he was a Democrat, what the Democrats had done with this resolution?

Mr. Tillman responded that he thought he could find the answer to the question by pointing out the shortcomings and the inadequacy of that word was allowable—of course as well as others. The Naval Committee which the New Hampshire Senator had referred to, having a majority of so-called Democrats, had simply postponed that resolution. Mr. Tillman pointed out alleged irregularities in the fact that Secretary Herbert had imposed a fine on the Carnegie Company, which fine was remitted by the President.

He said it was a Democratic President who remitted the fine? Inquired Mr. Allen.

"Please do not leave out 'so-called' in referring to that President," answered Mr. Tillman, and then he said, "as it hurts my feelings, and as I have referred to it as a Democratic President."

He went on to say that he never had heard of the President's remission of the fine. The President had tried to override law by remitting the fine. The Senator reviewed the evidence on the cost of the armor, and said that the cost of the armor adopted some remedy, such as the armor-plate factories, there would be an armor-plate factory.

Mr. Bacon, of Georgia, moved to place the bill at \$30 per ton. He declared that the government would have to build its ships at \$30 per ton, for the present he stood by B. allowing the offer \$30 and the ships to fail. If he did not, until Congress assembled.

TELLER LIVELY.

Mr. Teller, of Colorado, contributed a lively speech. He said he had been the general impression that our ships were inferior in quality and dignity of the nation, but he said our warships had proved a source of confusion to the last administration.

The Cuban war, with worst conflict in the hundred years, had our doors, and to send the representative of our national dignity and honor. The armory had been in a state of ship. It might endanger our peace with Spain.

not to be sent where needed. We have had a good deal of trouble over our ships, anyway. Mr. Teller said, and probably they would be as well on the stocks as in service. It would be a great surrender of national dignity to bow to the armor contractors than to let the ships stand on the stocks, and the Senator declared he would let them stand unmolested for all time rather than be held up by the armor combine.

A vote was then taken on the amendment limiting the cost of armor to \$300 per ton. It was carried, on a viva voce vote, by a majority of one or two others being the only ones to vote in the negative.

Mr. Butler then offered an amendment authorizing the Secretary of the Navy to make a general investigation of the armor-plate factories, and to report to Congress at its next session. It was agreed to.

Other amendments to the bill were made as follows: For improvement of Cumberland Sound, Fla., \$50,000; to pay balance of \$14,485 to claimants under the Spanish-American Claims Commission.

The deficiency appropriation bill was then passed.

At 5:30 P. M. the Senate held an executive session, and then adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House took a recess to-day until to-morrow at noon, about transacting any business. Mr. Cannon, the chairman of the Appropriations Committee of the last Congress, announced that it was evident that the deficiency bill would not be ready to be acted upon until to-morrow, and he therefore moved a recess until to-morrow at noon.

THE LESTER CASE.

The trial began—Coroner Taylor on the Stand.

MARTINSVILLE, VA., July 13.—(Special.)—The second trial of Wade W. Lester for the murder of young J. W. Davis in this county in February, 1896, began in the County Court this morning. The indictment on which Lester was tried first had been nolle prossed, and a new one returned. The defense, and it was overruled. Their special plea was filed, one of which was that the accused was entitled to a discharge, on the grounds that to try him on a new indictment was a double jeopardy. The prosecution demurred, and a fine argument was had on the question raised. The Court rejected the plea, and proceeded to impanel the jury. The jury was made up of the following: Dr. W. H. Taylor, the State Chemist, who made the analysis of Davis's stomach and found strychnine, was examined and cross-examined for several hours. His testimony was technical, but not very convincing. He said the processes of analysis used and popular enough for the jury, and highly instructive to the large audience. Dr. Taylor was certain of the presence of strychnine.

ANXIOUS FOR INVESTIGATION.

Former City Auditor of Roanoke Surrenders Himself.

NORFOLK, VA., July 13.—(Special.)—W. A. Noble, formerly of Roanoke, Va., but who has lived here with his family since last March, surrendered himself to the police department this morning, having learned that he was wanted by the Roanoke authorities. He was a man of middle age, and was a native of Virginia. He had been in the city for some time, but had not been in the city for some time. He had been in the city for some time, but had not been in the city for some time. He had been in the city for some time, but had not been in the city for some time.

LIGHTNING'S TERRORS.

A House Burned and the Occupant Killed.

STORMONT, VA., July 13.—(Special.)—The dwelling of Charles Wood, an old colored man, late of Water View, in this county, was struck by lightning yesterday, and the old man must have been instantly killed, as all that could be found after the storm was over was the skull of the man lying among the ruins of his house. The house was a small one-story building, and was built of wood. It was a very old building, and was in a state of decay. The lightning struck the house, and the house was burned to the ground.

HACKED WITH AN AXE.

Tried to Kill a Woman and Then Took to the Woods.

NORFOLK, VA., July 13.—(Special.)—A Sandars attempted last night to murder Fannie Harris, a woman with whom he lived, in Scott street, Portsmouth. Sandars left his wife for the woman, and she deserted her husband for him. Everything went smoothly until Sandars became insanely jealous. While intoxicated, he went home, and taking an axe to kill his mistress, inflicted eight cuts on her head. Sandars left the woman for dead, and went to a drugstore. He was found by a neighbor, and was taken to the hospital. He was in a state of delirium, and was unable to give any account of his actions.

A Hung Jury.

PETERSBURG, VA., July 13.—(Special.)—In the County Court of Chesterfield, to-day, the trial of J. A. Smith, charged with the felonious cutting of J. N. Coble, late of Chesterfield, was resumed. The evidence was concluded, and after the instructions had been argued the argument in law was opened by Commonwealth's Attorney Ogilby. He followed by Hon. W. R. McKenney for the defense, and Judge D. A. Hinton concluded the argument for the prosecution. The case was given to the jury about 7 o'clock, and after an absence of an hour they reported their inability to agree, and court adjourned over until to-morrow. It is reported that the jury stood about even as between acquittal and a small fine.

Two Mighty Contingents.

North and South America, beside Guatemala, the West Indies, Australia, and even Europe, are the fields of usefulness to which Hostetter's Catarrh Bitters has demonstrated its value as an antidote to malaria, and as a remedy for dyspepsia, constipation, and other ailments.

Why, with Spain would be a trifling affair, as we are concerned," said Mr. Teller. He ridiculed the idea of having ships, if they were not to be sent where needed.

MARKET QUOTATIONS.

REPORTS FROM ALL GREAT BUSINESS CENTRES OF THE WORLD.

Prices of Money, Bonds, Stocks, Grain, Tobacco, Cotton, Cattle, Country Produce, &c., Foreign and Domestic.

Citricura

Sold throughout the world. For Sale by Druggists and Chemists. "How to Cure Every Kind of Itch," mailed free.

BABY BLEMISHES Prevented and Cured by CITICURA SOAP.

ON THE APPOMATTOX RAILROAD, AGAIN.

Examining the Proposed Route in Chesterfield County—Annual Meeting of the Mutual Telephone Company—Charged With Robbery.

PETERSBURG, VA., July 13.—(Special.) General James Negley, of New York, who is closely associated with Mr. DeWitt Smith in the Virginia and Carolina Railroad, arrived in the city this morning in company with two other gentlemen, interested in the road. They drove over into Chesterfield county to look after the proposed route of the line in that direction. General Negley work on the road would begin, as right-of-way would first have to be secured, and until this was done work would not be commenced.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Mutual Telephone Company was held to-day, and the following Board of Directors elected: W. B. McIlwaine, E. A. Hartley, T. S. Beckwith, A. Rosenstock, T. P. Heath, Morris Levy, W. S. McCance, L. C. Wright, and John O'Connor. At a subsequent meeting of the board the following officers were elected: President, W. B. McIlwaine; Vice-President, E. A. Hartley; Secretary and Treasurer, R. D. Gilliam; Manager, C. M. Gilliam; Executive Committee—T. P. Heath, L. C. Wright, and W. S. McCance.

PERSONAL AND GENERAL.

Colonel Sol. Cuthbert, of Richmond, in a letter expressing his opinion on the decision of the Judge in the prize military drill in this city gave general satisfaction, takes occasion to compliment the Grays and Rifles, and to say that Petersburgh has the right to feel proud of her military organization. He also said that he was glad to see the encouragement from the city and her citizens which they so richly deserve.

Mr. and Mrs. P. C. Hahr have gone to New York. Mr. J. Elgesbrom, one of our most prominent merchants, who has been quite sick for some days, is better to-day.

A steady rain, continuing for some hours, fell here last night, and proved a great blessing to this section, where the drought has been so severely felt.

Ida Murrell, a woman living in the western part of the city, reported to the police this morning that she was robbed last night of \$20 in money. She alleged that the money was taken from her person, James M. Young was arrested to-day, charged with taking the money.

ROANOKE STIRRED UP

By Unexpected Grand Jury Indictments—Shot a Deponent.

ROANOKE, VA., July 13.—(Special.)—Considerable excitement was caused here to-day by the announcement that the grand jury had brought in twelve indictments against P. L. Terry, president, and S. W. Jamison, secretary and treasurer, of the defunct Roanoke Loan, Trust and Safe Deposit Company. It was known that many of the creditors of the late bank were dissatisfied with the management of the company, and had employed counsel to investigate its affairs, but the fact that several grand juries had met and adjourned without taking any action in the matter, led many to believe that nothing would be done. The action of the grand jury was therefore somewhat a surprise, and much comment has been the result. The indictments charge these two officials with having received twelve different sums of money, over \$100,000, from the defunct company, and that they were trusted officials to be insolvent. The trial of the cases will take place at the September term of the Hustings Court, the defendants giving bond in the sum of \$3,000 each.

J. O. Ashbire, a farmer living near here, shot at an unknown negro in his truck past last night, and supposing the man to be dead or mortally hurt, he went to the house for a doctor, but on his return the negro had disappeared. No trace of the deponent has since been discovered.

As a result of the Sunday liquor selling, started by Rev. J. A. W. Kimmel, pastor of the Fourth-Avenue Christian church, of this city, Gus Warner, keeper of the Wayside Inn bar-room, pleaded guilty in the Police Court to-day and was fined \$20. Other cases will come up in the same court to-morrow.

Frederick C. Dexter, of New York City, has purchased the Lee Hotel, in Roanoke, for \$50,000. Real estate is looking up in this city.

THE MECKLENBURG MURDER.

Young Rogers Bailed in Five Hundred Dollars.

BOYDTON, VA., July 13.—(Special.)—Upon a writ of habeas corpus, through his counsel, Hon. R. T. Thorpe, to-day, John R. Rogers, who was arrested last yesterday afternoon charged with the murder of William D. Warren, was admitted to bail by Judge Homes in the sum of \$500.

To-day Deputy-Sheriff E. N. Carter brought to town and lodged in jail one Roger Watkins, a colored man, charged with white-capping, and who made his escape from jail here in October, 1894.

Supreme Court of Appeals.

WYTHEVILLE, VA., July 13.—(Special.)—The following was the business in the Supreme Court of Appeals to-day: Newberry Land Company vs. Newberry. Argued and submitted. Held for the defendant, and Steel Company et al. vs. Caldwell, trustee, et al. Set for hearing Friday.

For Nervous Exhaustion.

Use Horsford's Acid Phosphate.

Dr. A. L. Turner, Bloomsburg, Sanitarium, Philadelphia, Pa., says: "As an adjunct to the recuperative powers of the nervous system, I know of nothing equal to it."

NEW YORK BOND QUOTATIONS.

Bond	Closing
U. S. 4's 1898	107 1/2
U. S. 4's 1899	107 1/2
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